Part I
Excavating 2D Text

Chapter 1

Excavating 2D Text: Introduction

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When a historian takes on an old map as a primary source, she or he might feel like conducting an archeological survey. The "archeologist" in a room reaches an older layer than other parts, finds a geologic fault as a result of a map-integration and digs up many artefacts for categorising. This is the reason we have titled this part "Excavating 2D Text."

I recommended three figures to the organising committee of the International Symposium on Old Maps in Asia headed by Hamashita Takeshi in Toyo Bunko. He wanted to focus on new approaches to map research. After accepting the recommendations, I contacted three academics to invite the symposium due on December 8 and 9 in 2018. I did not mention the new ways of map research but just asked each to present a paper on Asian maps based on an "empirical" approach. The three and I presented papers at the symposium and later handed over finalised articles for publication. Each of them can claim a substantial contribution to map research. Not fully confident though, I believe that all four somehow might feel they had conducted "archeological" surveys. I want to claim they are exercising the new ways of map research with yielded fruitful findings.

Bounding Early Modern Japan: Bakufu Maps, Hayashi Shihei, Kondō Jūzō, and Inō Tadataka

Ronald Toby, a specialist on early modern Japanese statecraft, foreign affairs, and culture, takes on premodern maps of Japan made in Japan, with a focus on border issues expressed in maps. The main setting of this article is that an actual change in a society tends to reflect the modes of depiction on maps. He starts to visit the field sites collectively called "Gyōki 行基-style maps" having long history from medieval Japan down to the Edo period and shows one by one in front of us, commenting on the ambiguous nature of "border-related" artefacts. Then he goes for the official maps, "Maps of Japan" (*Nihon zu* 日本図; *Nihon sōzu* 日本総図) commissioned by the Tokugawa Bakufu 幕府 and diverse commercial maps of Japan, both indicating inconsistent treatments on marginal areas. He terms the treatment of these marginal areas as "boundary conditions" to address these complicated artefacts.

The emergence of Western powers, in particular, Russia since the late eighteenth century forced Edo Japan to cope with the new situation. Hayashi Shihei who felt a peril for Japan and Japanese territory came up with the idea to visualise Japan as a shape of the country distinctive from the others. Hayashi's *Complete Map of the Foreign Countries Neighbouring Japan* is a hand-drawn map produced in 1783, which formed the basis for the maps in his *Illustrated Survey of the Three Countries* (*Sangoku tsūran zusetsu* 三国通覧図説, 1786).

Toby puts the artefacts excavated from Hayashi's maps on his table as the standard which showed an appropriate formula when Japan faced modern states, i.e., the Western powers. They represented the top runners of those days' political culture. He continues to introduce Hayashi's successors in the early modern state of Japan. Then he looks at Western powers' impacts on Japanese society through a series of conclusions of treaties and addresses that the Treaty of Commerce with Russia signed on February 7, 1855 was another top runner in actual society. That is the moment when the real caught up with the imagined.

History That Lies within the Antique Maps

For map research, Lin Tien-jen accumulated enviable experiences at the National Palace Museum in Taipei. Surrounded by a huge amount of treasures, he excavated numerous artefacts on the maps made in the Ming and Qing Dynasties and even explored maps in the Library of Congress, USA and the British Library, UK. His article sets the priority on identifying the time of map creation. Then he introduces those artefacts to show clues as to when they were created.

Avoiding the characters used for the real names of emperors in writing has a long tradition in China. In that sense, if you find a tabooed Chinese character for a specific emperor on a map, you can get a clue suggesting the map was created before that emperor's reign. However, people carefully evaded the taboo by replacing the character with simplified or variant fonts. Lin suggests more detailed examination of fonts in the map is needed to decide the year of creation.

He continues to show examples. In the Qing Dynasty, a local military jurisdiction did not always cover the same area as a local administrative jurisdiction. Furthermore, a specific area can be changed of its belonging to both jurisdictions. If you identify discordance in a local map of China due to jurisdiction change, you can decide the year of map creation. Repair or completion of riverbanks, iconised map symbols, and signature on a map whose painter had already died may give you clues to decide the year of map creation. Through showing the series of clues by introducing diverse kinds of materials, he discusses the need of cooperation with neighbouring scholarships in map research.

The Oldest Map Becomes the Newest: Takenomori Dōetsu's 1696 Map of the Ryukyu Kingdom

Based on her comprehensive research interests in premodern Ryukyu history, Watanabe Miki deeply excavates a map of the Ryukyu Kingdom (Map I) that the Fukuoka samurai Takenomori Dōetsu 竹森道悦 donated to Dazaifu Tenmangū 太宰府天満宮 Shrine in 1696.

She summarises the outcomes of the fieldwork of the *Map of the Ryukyu Kingdom* (Map II) in *Haedong chegukki* 海東諸国紀 (1471), the oldest extant map of the Ryukyu Kingdom. She suggests a map (Map III) presented to the Korean government by the Hakata monk-merchant Dōan 道安 in 1453 is a close relative of the original map for Map II even though it is not extant. Based on this result, she turns to Map I and excavates many artefacts which she breaks down into two categories, sea routes expression and old place names. They show Map I was mainly copied from Map III, similar to the original map, rather than Map II. That means she dug Map I and picked many artefacts from the oldest layer in the middle of the fifteenth century.

Watanabe examines Takenomori's human relations and reconstructs the rich network of intellectuals. That could have been what motivated him to complete Map I. Furthermore, she discusses the contemporary situation for an intellectual like Takenomori living in the late seventeenth century in terms of historical and geographical knowledge of Ryukyu. She concludes that Takenomori probably did not know the contemporary Ryukyu well, but rather constructed the oldest Ryukyu in the newest framework.

Ryukyu and Taiwan in the Maps of China Made in Edo Japan

Looking at maps through the lens of maritime history, Takahashi Kimiaki conducts a series of excavations on China-centred maps of Asia made in Japan from the late seventeenth century through the late nineteenth century, which are collectively named *Daimin chiri no zu* 大明地理之図 in the article. Eight variants *Daimin chiri no zu* are currently known, though more examples are likely to be found. They are all hand-drawn, multi-coloured, and similar in their depiction of land shapes, description of place names, and mapping formats. These features indicate that they commonly have an ancestor map integrated in Japan. Takahashi calls it "Map X."

The core part of Map X is namely the Chinese territory depicted as a historical map. Many place names are coded by colours and/or shapes of labels for indicating the jurisdiction of the legendary (i.e., pre-Zhou) kings Yugong 禹貢, Yao 堯, and Shun 舜 in the context of the contemporary administrative jurisdictions of Ming. Takahashi then

identifies faults in the eastern side of Map X. They are traces of map integration, maps of the Korean Peninsula, the Japanese Archipelago, and the Ryukyu Islands. The first two were attached when Map X was created, and the last had been already annexed in China. Based upon the results of his examination of Map X, Takahashi discusses the participation of oriental medicine specialists in the production of the eight descendants of Map X and the significance of the designation of Tōnei 東寧 (Dongning in Chinese, today's Taiwan) added on an island near the Ryukyu Islands, referring to Matteo Ricci's 利瑪竇 *Kunyu wanguo quantu* 坤輿万国全図 (1602) and China-centred Asian maps printed in Edo-period Japan.

All four articles tend to cut off segments from maps like artefacts from archeological field sites. Why? Maps are generally rich in icons and signs. A place name, for example, occupies a specific spot on a map. It can be said to be "coded geographically." Toby emphasises a set phrase in specific places. Lin deduces the reason a specific area is excluded from a map. Watanabe does not miss a slight difference in sea routes expression. Takahashi finds two Chinese characters on a small island. Toby and Lin focus on contemporary factors, and Watanabe and Takahashi on the multi-layered nature of maps.